

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

No claims are canceled in this document.

Claims 6-7 and 14 are amended in this document.

Claims 1-20 and 22-29 are pending.

1. (Previously Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

identifying multiple policies to be combined together;  
determining whether any conflicts exist between the multiple policies;  
adding non-conflicting policies to a merged policy set;  
resolving conflicting policies by selecting a preferred policy based on an allowed range of policy values; and  
including the preferred policy in the merged policy set.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the preferred policy represents a preferred range of values associated with at least one of the multiple policies.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining an allowed range of values associated with the multiple policies.

4. (Previously Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the preferred policy is contained within the allowed range of values associated with the multiple policies.

1           5.     (Previously Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 further  
2     comprising deleting policies that are outside the allowed range of values, wherein  
3     the allowed range of values is associated with the multiple policies.

4  
5           6.     (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein  
6     selecting a preferred policy includes:

7                 arranging conflicting policy templates ~~in order~~ from global policies to local  
8     policies;

9                 determining an intersection of the conflicting policy templates; and

10                selecting the preferred policy template based on the intersection of the  
11     conflicting policy templates.

12  
13           7.     (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein  
14     selecting a preferred policy includes:

15                 arranging conflicting policy templates ~~in order~~ from global policies to local  
16     policies;

17                 determining an intersection of the conflicting policy templates; and

18                selecting the preferred policy template based on the policy template closest  
19     to the local policies and within the intersection of the conflicting policy templates.

20  
21           8.     (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the policies are  
22     event-handling policies.

1           9.     (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the policies define  
2 how a device is to be configured.

3  
4           10.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the policies  
5 identify the types of events that are provided to each device.

6  
7           11.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein resolving  
8 conflicting policies includes comparing related policies individually.

9  
10          12.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is  
11 implemented by a management module.

12  
13          13.   (Original) One or more computer-readable memories containing a  
14 computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited  
15 in claim 1.

16  
17          14.   (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:  
18 identifying multiple policies to be combined together;  
19 determining whether any conflicts exist between the multiple policies;  
20 adding non-conflicting policies to a merged policy set;  
21 arranging conflicting policies ~~in order~~ from global policies to local policies;  
22 determining an intersection of the conflicting policies; and  
23 selecting a preferred policy based on the policy closest to the local policies  
24 and within the intersection of the conflicting policies.  
25

1           15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14 wherein the preferred  
2 policy represents a preferred range of values associated with at least one of the  
3 multiple policies.

4  
5           16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 15 further comprising  
6 deleting policies that are outside the preferred range of values.

7  
8           17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14 wherein the policies are  
9 event-handling policies.

10  
11           18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14 wherein the policies  
12 determine how an associated device is configured.

13  
14           19. (Original) One or more computer-readable memories containing a  
15 computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited  
16 in claim 14.

17  
18           20. (Previously Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
19 a storage device configured to store a merged policy set; and  
20 a management module coupled to the storage device and configured to  
21 identify multiple policies to be merged into the merged policy set, wherein the  
22 management module adds non-conflicting policies to the merged policy set and  
23 resolves conflicts among conflicting policies by selecting a preferred policy based  
24 on an allowed range of policy values.  
25

1           21.     Canceled.

2  
3           22.     (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 20 wherein resolving  
4 conflicts among conflicting policies includes arranging conflicting policy  
5 templates in order from global policies to local policies, determining the  
6 intersection of the conflicting policy templates, and selecting the preferred policy  
7 template based on the policy template that is closest to the local policies and  
8 within the intersection of the conflicting policy templates.

9  
10          23.     (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 20 wherein the  
11 management module is part of an enterprise computing system.

12  
13          24.     (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 20 wherein the  
14 management module receives event data generated by a plurality of event  
15 providers coupled to the management module.

16  
17          25.     (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 20 wherein the multiple  
18 policies define how devices are configured in an enterprise.

19  
20          26.     (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 20 wherein the multiple  
21 policies identify the types of events that are provided to each device in an  
22 enterprise.

1           27. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having stored  
2 thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more processors,  
3 causes the one or more processors to:

4           identify multiple policies to be combined together in a merged policy set;

5           determine whether any conflicts exist between the multiple policies;

6           include non-conflicting policies in the merged policy set;

7           resolve conflicting policies by:

8                 selecting an allowed policy range;

9                 selecting a preferred policy range that is included in the allowed  
10           policy range; and

11                 including the preferred policy range in the merged policy set.

12  
13           28. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim  
14 27 wherein the policies are event-handling policies.

15  
16           29. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim  
17 27 wherein the policies identify the types of events that are provided to devices in  
18 an enterprise.